



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

The President

The Honorable Bruce L. Braley
2263 Rayburn House Office Building
United States House of
Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
United States of America

Lausanne, 21 February 2013

Dear Representative Braley,

Thank you for sharing your thoughts on wrestling and the Olympic Programme. I appreciate your interest in this matter and your passion for wrestling. You and the citizens of Iowa have good reason to be proud of the many great wrestlers and Olympic champions from your state.

To provide a little background, the International Olympic Committee regularly reviews the sports on the Olympic Programme to ensure that it has the right mix to maintain the appeal and relevance of the Olympic Games. I can assure you that decisions about which sports to include are based on factors well beyond any question of television ratings. No sport is judged in isolation. The task before the IOC Executive Board was to recommend the right combination of 25 sports based on a wide variety of factors. For example, it is important to strike the right balance between team sports and individual sports; between combat sports and other sports; and between sports decided by objective measurements and sports that depend heavily on judging.

It is never an easy decision. In recommending 25 sports for the Olympic Programme for 2020, the members of the IOC Executive Board applied their collective wisdom gained through years of experience in all areas of sport — as competitors, as administrators and as Olympians.

Wrestling is, and will always be, a great sport. It will remain on the Olympic Programme for the 2016 Games. It is also important to note that the Executive Board's recommendation is not the final decision. Wrestling will now join seven other sports seeking a place on the Olympic Programme for 2020. The full International Olympic Committee will make the final judgment at the IOC Session in September.

With very best regards,

Jacques Rogge



cc:

Larry PROBST, President, United States Olympic Committee

Scott BLACKMUN, Secretary General, United States Olympic Committee

Anita DEFRANTZ, IOC Member

James EASTON, IOC Member

Angela RUGGIERO, IOC Member